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SOURCE

Kung-shang Jih-pao.

HIGHWAY TO VIET NAM TO BE IMPROVED FOR USE BY TANKS AND FIGHTER PLANES

Continued preparations for military activities in South China are apparent in saticles appearing in the pro-KMT Hong Kong Kung-shang Jih-pao which reports projects to widen and improve the Kwang-tung-Kwangsi highway from Cantor to the Viet Nam border by February 1951. Such improvements will permit use of the highway by tanks and as runways for light fighter planes.

Permanent concrete bridges are being built on highways in south Kwangtung.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE COMPLETED IN FEBRUARY -- Hong Kong, Kung-shang Jih-pao, 1 Jan 51

(Chung-yang) -- According to an informed source, the Central and South China Regional District government has issued orders to complete, before the end of February 1951, the improvement of the Kwangtung-Kwangsi highway from Canton to the Viet Nam border. The width of the road is to be increased by 12 feet (English feet) and surfaced with 18 inches (English inches) of crushed rock and a mixture of lime and earth. The purpose of this is to condition the road for use by heavy military trucks and tanks destined for the aid of the Viet Minh forces.

At suitable places in Lo-ting Hsien, Kwangtung, where the terrain is comparatively level and smooth, the road is to be widened by 35 feet (English feet) and surfaced with 5 feet (English feet) of crushed rock and a mixture of earth and lime. This is for the purpose of providing runways where light fighter planes may land and take-off.

It is learned that after receiving the above orders, the Kwangtung provincial Highway Department was considerably troubled because to finish this huge assignment within a few weeks is an extraordinarily difficult task. The work will require some 200,000 laborers, and finding adequate quantities of suitable materials presents a serious problem. It will hardly be possible to start work before the middle of January 1951.

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MILITARY PRESS IMPROVEMENT OF SOUTHEAST KWANGTUNG HIGHWAYS -- Hong Kong, Kungshang Jih-pao, 23 Dec 50

Canton, 22 December -- To strengthen the defense of the scutheastern coast of Kwangtung, the military authorities continue to push the improvements of roads and bridges in that area, commandeering river boats, trucks, and carts for the transportation of troops and material. Temporarily repaired wooden bridges are being replaced as fast as possible by permanent bridges of reinforced concrete. Emphasis is being placed on the Canton-Hui-yang-Swatow highway, and the roads radiating from Hui-yang to Tan-shui, Pao-an, Ao-t'ou-chiang, Chang-mu-t'ou, P'ing-shan, Shen-ch'uan, and others.

However, the rivers at Hui-yang are so large that under present conditions, the construction of concrete bridges there is too great an undertaking. Hence, it is still necessary to rely on wooden bridges at that important highway junction point.

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